

Federal Communications Commission  
Topic: Loosening Restrictions on Nudity and F Word

April 30, 2013

Dear FCC representative,

In light of the FCC's mandate to have its rules be in "the public interest, convenience, and necessity", and taking into account the well-documented harmful effects of submitting children to nudity and vulgarity, loosening restrictions on the "F" word and nudity should not be permitted.

First, the average American child consumes numerous hours of media - especially television - every week should be reason enough to not loosen these standards any more, because this means they will likely be exposed to more nudity and harsh vulgarity.

Permitting more female nudity will only increase the stigmatization of sexualizing women within our culture. The effects of this stigmatization on women and girls have been catalogued in numerous social science studies, most notably in the American Psychological Association's 2010 "Report of the APA Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls" (<http://www.apa.org/pi/women/programs/girls/report-full.pdf>). Some of these effects include harm to interpersonal relationships, "impaired cognitive performance in college-aged women... body dissatisfaction, eating disorders, low self-esteem, depressive affect, and even physical health problems" (p. 2).

Additionally, swearing had been linked to increased aggression and antisocial attitudes in adolescents (Coyne, Stockdale, Nelson, and Fraser, 2011 "Profanity in media associated with attitudes and behavior regarding profanity use and aggression". My experience in the workplace is that while other forms of swearing are often tolerated, the F word is not because it is still considered particularly vulgar.

Sincerely,

Ian Gillespie